ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

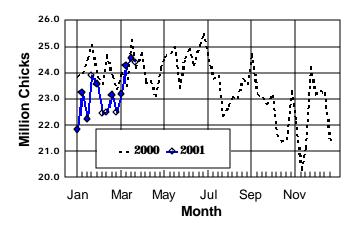
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 24.4 million during the week ending March 31, 2001, according to the Arkansas Agricultural Statistics Service. Placements were down 1 percent from both the comparable week in 2000, and the previous week, and included 2.7 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through March 31, 2001 were 301.8 million, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 24.9 million, slightly below the corresponding week a year earlier, but up slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.1 percent.

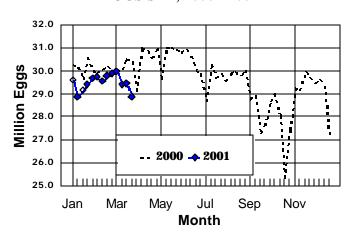
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 28.9 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending March 31, 2001, 1 percent below the same period last year, and down 2 percent from the previous week.

	NET PL	ACEME	NTS	CHICK	KS HATCI	HED	EGGS SET			
Week Ending	2000	2001	% Change	2000	2001	% Change	2000	2001	% Change	
	1,000	0		1,00	00		1,00			
Feb. 24	23,384	23,167	99	24,686	24,393	99	30,009	29,820	99	
Mar. 3	24,043	22,485	94	24,797	24,515	99	30,063	29,916	100	
Mar. 10	23,490	23,203	99	24,722	24,466	99	30,079	29,991	100	
Mar. 17	25,285	24,259	96	24,695	24,708	100	30,563	29,426	96	
Mar. 24	24,194	24,556	102	24,901	24,804	100	30,408	29,443	97	
Mar. 31	24,765	24,415	99	24,967	24,914	100	29,139	28,886	99	

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2000 - 2001



EGGS SET, 2000 - 2001



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 15 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2001

EGGS SET (in Thousands)							CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)					
	Week Ending 1/				1/		Week Ending					1/
STATE	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	31-Mar	%	24-Feb	03-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	31-Mar	%
Alabama	29,162 *	28,653	28,597 *	29,046	100	20,374	21,304	21,388	21,177	21,477 *	22,454	103
ARKANSAS	29,991	29,426	29,443	28,886	99	23,167	22,485	23,203	24,259	24,556	24,415	99
Delaware	3,669	3,574	3,682 *	3,670	84	4,232	4,905	4,817	5,250	4,799 *	5,276	103
Florida	2,544	2,679	2,695	2,678	91	2,434	2,353	2,408	2,400	2,364	2,230	90
Georgia	31,589 *	31,873	31,851 *	31,531	98	24,539	24,227	24,779	25,946	26,262 *	25,990	100
Maryland	8,736	8,888	8,608	8,624	99	5,715	5,717	5,602	6,140	5,714 *	5,377	98
Mississippi	19,004	18,821	19,018	18,670	101	14,874	15,174	15,388	15,151	15,954	15,662	101
N. Carolina	17,934 *	18,282	18,017	17,948	99	13,999	14,284	14,716	14,873	14,495	14,685	105
Pennsylvania	3,933 *	3,794 *	3,548 *	3,810	102	2,882	2,402	2,689 *	2,744 *	2,838 *	2,869	104
S. Carolina	4,846	4,983	5,051	4,911	100	3,760	4,044	3,702	3,754	4,245	3,797	96
Texas	14,738	14,798	14,851	14,684	101	11,532	11,415	11,443	11,643	11,778	11,617	102
Virginia	6,647	6,717	6,883	6,686	101	5,602	5,592	5,859	5,373	5,659	5,287	88
CATN & WVA	11,496	11,483	11,342 *	11,327	96	9,483	9,981	10,412	10,268	10,176 *	10,142	94
Total 2000-2001	184,289 *	183,971 *	183,586 *	182,471		142,593	143,883	146,406 *	148,978 *	150,317 *	149,801	
Total 1999-2000	184,823	184,452	184,908	184,583		141,374	141,126	142,475	147,869	147,502	149,908	
% PREV. YEAR	100	100	99	99		101	102	103	101	102	100	
APPROXIMATE MARKETING DATE 2001						14-Apr	21-Apr	28-Apr	05-May	12-May	19-May	

^{*} Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 15 MAJOR BROILER PRODUCING STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-state weekly program set 182 million eggs during the week ending March 31, 2001. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 15-state weekly program placed 150 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 31, 2001. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through March 31, 2001 were 1.88 billion, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.